

JUST GOSSIP ABOUT PEOPLE

Nancy Wynne Tells of the Ball Given Last Night for Miss Jane Hepburn—She Speaks of the Many Parties Given for the Younger Set

EVERY ball you go to you feel... "Well, this is the most beautiful of them all!"

Marie Louise, you remember, came out last year and Jane this year. They are very popular girls. I scarcely think there has been a ball this year at which Jane has not received.

The dance was held in the Rose Garden, which was transformed into a scene of rare floral beauty. Festoons of natural amaranth and pink roses

The stage was artistically banked with Christmas trees aglow with red lights, while masses of pink roses and begonias completely concealed the orchestra.

Mrs. Hepburn and her reception room, which was banked with cydonium ferns and pink roses. Mrs. Hepburn wore a gown of French blue and silver

I HAVE not seen a debutante on the streets this whole week or anywhere but at the tea Mrs. Scott gave for her niece, Miss Hirt, on Wednesday night.

WHAT on earth has a child to look forward to when he or she grows up these days? Do you remember when it was an extraordinary thing for some one to get a date on Saturday night

WELL, I won't philosophize more, but I will tell you one thing to show you that I know whereof I speak. A certain mother told me last year that she had received at Eastertime

DANNY has gone away to live and he thought he hated very much to leave Grandmother and Auntie. He did not seem to mind leaving school at all.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES Mrs. and Mrs. James Alexander Robinson, of Pittsburgh, announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Letitia Robinson, to Mr. Henry C. Gibson, son of Mr. J. Howard Gibson, of 2001 Walnut street.

Mrs. and Mrs. Frank King Miller, of Bedford, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Letitia Miller, to Mr. Donald Harris Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Clark, of Chicago.

Mrs. and Mrs. George H. Frazer, of 113 Spruce street, will entertain at dinner on Tuesday night, January 4, in honor of Miss Eloise Warner, debutante daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Warner, of 125 South East street.

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MISS JANE SHAW HEPBURN Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Hepburn, of Villanova, who was the guest of honor at a dance given at the Bellevue-Stratford last evening.

Miss Berna Custer entertained her five-hundred club at her home, 1930 North 22nd street, on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. and Mrs. Ernest L. Dinning and their small daughter, of Baltimore, were the guests last week of Mr. Dinning's sister, Mrs. Henry Voorhees Hill, of 141 South Eighteenth street.

Mrs. and Mrs. Norman MacLeod, 2009 Walnut street, will entertain at supper on Sunday night.

Mrs. and Mrs. G. Hamilton Colket will entertain Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Francis Spruce, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Francis Spruce, at dinner at their home, 2010 Spruce street, on Tuesday night, January 4, to be followed by a box party at the opera.

Mrs. and Mrs. Alan Hartwell Strong, of Twenty-first and De Lancy streets, entertained at a family dinner at their home New Year's Day in honor of Mr. Strong's cousin, Mr. and Mrs. James Weston, of New Brunswick, who are their trustees for the opera.

Mrs. J. Edward Woodbridge, of Chester, will entertain informally at tea at the North Country Club on New Year's afternoon.

Mrs. Thomas Corey Musgrove, of 2224 De Lancy street, has issued invitations for a small card party at her home on Saturday afternoon, January 5.

Mrs. Arthur Burnston Owen, wife of Major Owen, E. M. Owen, will entertain at a card party on Wednesday afternoon and also on Wednesday night at her home, 2010 Spruce street.

Mrs. William Howard McGiffin, of South Garnet street, will be at home informally on New Year's afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock.

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AMERICAN DRAMA TODAY FLOURISHING, SAYS ARCHER

Noted Playwright Asserts Stage Here is in More Satisfactory Condition Than at Any Previous Time—More Point to Plays Now

American drama today is in a more satisfactory condition than it has been at any previous time, in the opinion of William Archer, noted dramatic critic and keen commentator, whose play, "The Green Goddess," is now appearing in this city.

"There never was a time," said Mr. Archer, "when the average of playwrighting was very high, and it is not very high today, but at least you have here a stage journalism, if nothing more, that is achieving quite satisfactory results."

"For instance, take what some consider the halcyon days of the drama in this country, about twenty years ago. Where there was no American playwright in those days that was writing plays that were to command production, there are twenty today.

"That it must be remembered that we are likely to think of the achievements of other days as though they represented a universal condition at the time, instead of understanding that the things we remember represent the pick of those days."

More Point to Plays Today "There is a long list of young American playwrights who have come to the fore in recent years. There is more of a point to the plays of today, more to think about. Clyde Fitch was possibly the most promising of the playwrights of twenty years ago, but he did just as he was on the eve of doing big things. So far as my knowledge goes, I should be inclined to call Eugene O'Neill the most remarkable playwright of today, but he has so far been unable to get Broadway productions.

"Some of our greatest writers have tried playwrighting and failed. Thus Henry James always looked to write a play, and he did write an admirable and charming first act in "Guy Domville." But the rest of the play did not prove stageworthy. Kipling, though I believe he would like to write plays, has never made a serious venture into the difficult art.

"While he has had few, if any, copiers, Ibsen probably exerted a greater influence on the stage of today than any other playwright in many years. He undoubtedly influenced Shaw, even though the latter has frequently ignored technique and devoted himself to brilliant lines to illumine his philosophy.

Pattern After Successful Plays "The statement is often made that the stage is given over to musical plays and again that the cycle swings and we get melodrama, therefore indicating the public taste. As a matter of fact, we have always had the set of people who like musical entertainment almost exclusively, as well as those who want their drama straight and strong. In most cases the producers set the style, imagining that a certain type of play is what the public wants. Then often playwrights and producers are in-

WISSAHICKON

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